

J.P. With Those Who Make the Decisions at Home

Justice of Peace

(Continued from Page 1)

long awaited grin, and one realizes that there is a great sense of humor hidden behind the quiet features. Then the session comes to an end, and one watches in even greater amazement the slouched figure slowly untangle itself from behind the massive desk, and when all 6 feet, 7 inches finally stands erect, one also meets James "Jim" Brennan, Justice of the Peace.

Born August 22, 1930 to Mildred and James Brennan, and with one sister Ruth, young James spent his preschool years in Miami, Florida where he entered this world. His father was a dealer. Young Jim spent his first two years in St. Joseph's grade school in Albany, New York, then Fort Lauderdale, Florida, during the next three years, at St. Anthony's school. Other family moves covered Jim through the eighth grade at Solon, Ohio, the 9th in Brooklyn Village, Ohio, and his three final years in public school in our own Las Vegas High. He followed with more years of study at the University of Nevada in Reno, from where he was graduated in 1954. His goal was law and he set out for his L.L.B. degree at the University of California and Hastings College of the Law, in San Francisco. He was awarded his sheepskin in 1958.

During his college years, Jim was a good fraternity man. He was president of the Lambo Chi Alpha, which he also served as chairman and treasurer. He also was a member of the Coffin and Keys, the Men's Upper Class Committee.

Life now presented its usual problems. One had to eat to live and to have the necessary evil, "money". Young Jim worked two jobs at a time, by day for four hours with Union Brookstone and at night at the Isabella Construction Co. as a custodian. He also worked in the sheet metal business. His Mother holds a very high place in our friend's outlook on life, for his father became an invalid in 1951 prior to his passing in 1953. Mama Mildred was to be the sole support of the youngsters from then on.

With the determination not to fail in that for which he had striven so hard, he completed his studies and passed the Bar Examination in 1958. He joined Morris, Graves and Compton, the law firm, as a law clerk prior to his passing the bar, which in itself proved of considerable help. In 1959 Jim was offered a position in the District Attorney's office with George Foley, where he remained for one year. In 1960 he was in partnership with William S. Boyd, where he practised until elected to Judgeship, January 4th 1965, for a two year term. Questioned as to whether or not he had any views with regards to running for any political position, he replied in the negative.

He is among the list of Trustees on the Southern Nevada Hospital's board, holding chairmanship in 1964.

His charming wife, the former Margerie Grantello was introduced to him by a mutual friend in 1952. In 1953 she took on a permanent partnership with him. To their credit, they have two girls, Barbara, nine, and Su-



HIS HONOR WITH WIFE MARJORIE, AND JAMES, SUE AND BARBARA.

sie, eight, and a son, six named after Dad, Jim.

He has been as an active member of the Elks for the past 12 years in addition to the J.C.'s and the Red Cross, the State Bar, and the Clark County Bar Associations. He attends the many and varied functions of the Anti-Defamation League and the Conference of Christians and Jews. He ruefully says he has had very little extra time to participate more actively.

Although he states he has done nothing outstanding in the past, he did earn a scholarship to the Hastings Col-

lege of Law, and he has written for the Law Review. He talks with a certain air of reverence about his teachers at this house of learning, for he recalls that all of them were over 65 years of age, and all retired Professors and Deans of Law Schools, which gave them the originality of teachings and curriculums completely different from the usual run of the mill.

Judge Jim Brennan spends whatever free time he has swimming, skiing or listening and enjoying music. Reading is mostly confined

to the further study of the law.

Sometimes one can struggle for years to make an indent on the history of the State in which one lives, and to do so, one has to be noisy, brash and forward. Not so with our personality. He already metes out justice fairly and squarely, and his presence is well felt.

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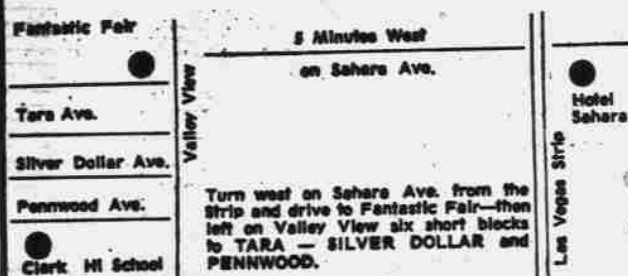
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